

THE FIRST MEDITERRANEAN GAMES

FROM OCT. 5th. TO 20th. 1951

HELD IN ALEXANDRIA

The First Mediterranean Games are now past history. Let us point out that they were an outstanding success thanks to the high spiritual standard of the organisers at the head of whom stood H. E. Taher Pacha member of the I. O. C. for Egypt. He contrived to select and assure the valuable assistance of worthy collaborators, who helped him to realize, in the face of great difficulties, the dearest wish of his life as a Maecenas. Amongst them let us mention particularly H. E. Chahine Bey, Secretary of the Egyptian Olympic Committee.

It is considered a great feat of achievement on the part of Egypt to have been able to organise these First Mediterranean Games. Its conception was most original when one considers that the land of the Pharaohs lies far away from its neighbours dwelling on the shores of the Mediterranean.

It needed the dynamic power and fierce perseverance of its popular Leader in the sporting Field, H. E. Taher Pacha to carry out successfully this audacious scheme. The aim has been reached and this is the main thing. We also wish to express our best thanks to the organisers for the warm welcome they extended to the few members of the I. O. C., who went out especially to

Alexandria, in order to witness there celebrations. Effectively, the following members foregathered in Egypt in order to represent the I. O. C.: Mr. Armand Massard (Acting as deputy-chairman of the I. O. C.), Mr. Angelo Bolanaki, Mr. Jean Ketseas, Mr. Albert Mayer, Baron de Guëll, Mr. Giorgio de Stefani and the Chancellor of the I. O. C.

Ten Mediterranean countries were represented by their athletes who, on the opening day of the Games, paraded before his Majesty King Farouk. These countries were: France, Italy, Spain, Yugo-Slavia, Turkey, Lebanon, Syria, Malta, Greece, Egypt, while Monaco begged to be excused. The official programme included the following sports.: Athletics, Swimming, Gymnastics, Weight-lifting, Fencing, Wrestling, Boxing, Rowing, Basketball and Shooting. On the other hand, several International Federations sent their representatives to Alexandria with the purpose of supervising technical questions. Their work was much appreciated for it was partly due to their collaboration that the Games run so smoothly.

Amongst the members of the International Federations we noticed the following delegates (while apologizing for possible omissions of names): Mr. Gaston Mullegg,

President of the International Rowing Federation, Mr. E. J. Holt, Hon. Secretary of the I. A. A. F. (Athletics), Lt. Col. R. H. Russell (Boxing), Mr. Charles Thoeni (Gymnastics), Mr. E. Gouleau (Weight-lifting), Mr. Roger Coulon (Wrestling), Larsson (Shooting), Dr. Decio Scuri and W. Jones (Basketball), M. H. Durieux (Fencing), MM. R. M. Ritter, Bertil Sallfors and Jan de Vries (Swimming).

We publish below the list of the results obtained by the winners:

ATHLETIC RESULTS AT THE FIRST MEDITERRANEAN GAMES

(Our list mentions the names of the winners only. The letters following the names stand for the countries, per ex.: G. = Greece, I. = Italy, F. = France, Y. = Yugo-Slavia, T. = Turkey):

100 m., Petrakis (G), 10.9; 200 m., Siddi (I), 22.0; 400 m., Degats (F), 47.8; 800 m., El Mabruk (F), 1.50.9; 1 500 m., El Mabruk (F), 3.55.8; 5 000 m., Mimoun (F), 14.38.3; 10 000 m., Mimoun (F), 31.07.9; marathon, Ah Aytar (T), 3.07.25.0; 10 000 m. marche, Dordoni (I), 51.39.6; 110 m. haies, Brichon (F), 15.5; 400 m. haies, Filiput (I), 53.8; 3 000 m. steeple, Djriskovic (Y), 9.36.5; 4 × 100 m. relais, Italie (Montanari, Frizzoni, Leccese, Siddi), 42.4; 4 × 400 m. relais, France (Degats, Clare, Martin, El Mabruk) 3.19.5; Saut en hauteur, Damitio (F), 2 m. 00; saut à la perche, Sillon (F), 4 m. 00; saut en longueur, Bernad (Y), 7 m. 28; triple saut, Akin (T), 14 m. 15; poids, Yataganas (G), 15 m. 03; disque, Tosi (I), 48 m. 49; marteau, Taddia (I), 52 m. 33; Javelot Dauguvic (Y), 65 m. 82; Decathlon, Cosmas (G), 51.35 p.

The results of the other competitions will appear in the next issue of our *Bulletin*.

SPEECH OF H. E. MOHAMED TAHER PACHA PRESIDENT OF THE EGYPTIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

delivered at the solemn opening Ceremony of the First Mediterranean Games.

On this memorable day in the history of our nation and on this happy occasion when our young Sovereign does us the honour to inaugurate the First Mediterranean Games, it gives me much pleasure to extend a hearty welcome to all the youths who have gathered around us like a necklace of precious stones encircling a country proud of its civilization and its history. A precious necklace, each stone of which is linked to the other by brotherly love and sparkles with the true sporting spirit.

Today is the ceremony of the first outstanding sporting manifestation to which the youth of the Mediterranean Countries is actually taking part. The honour of participating in it, is in itself, more precious than the actual emulation of winning.

White is all the more the symbol of purity and light — youth being the spring of life —

than the sporting spirit stands as a brother to virtue. We believe staunchly in this human quest as symbolized by brotherly love, glory and peace.

Nobody can foretell what the future holds in store for us, but we can, nevertheless, build up this future, adapting it to our needs, on the one condition, that our minds should be devoid of all spitefulness and that our hearts should soar above meanness and pettiness.

It would not be fair not to mention the efforts displayed in order to bring about this happy meeting where the hopes of today meet the hopes of to-morrow.

It is my dearest wish that this meeting should fulfil the hopes and promises expected from it, thus creating a spirit of genuine brotherly love and absolute loyalty.

To conclude this manifestation, let us express the earnest wish that athletes and leaders may carry back home from Alexandria, a message of hope and belief in humanity as symbolized by Brotherhood and the lasting work for peace.

THE SECOND MEDITERRANEAN GAMES

Owing to the outstanding success achieved by the First Mediterranean Games, the organising Committee of the Games has decided to make them a permanent Institution to be celebrated every four years. On the strength of this next Games have been allotted to the City of Barcelona and Baron de Guëll of Barcelona will assume the presidency of the organization.

HONORARY PRESIDENT

To express the gratitude for all the activity and services rendered in connection with the First Mediterranean Games, the Committee has decided to confer the title of Honorary President of the Mediterranean Games to H. E. Mohamed Taher Pacha.

MEETING OF THE GAMES COMMITTEE AT ALEXANDRIA

The following persons foregathered in Alexandria for the election of a permanent Committee for the Mediterranean Games: H. E. Taher Pacha (Egypt), Mr. Angelo Bolanaki and Mr. Jean Ketseas (Greece), Mr. Armand Massard (France), Baron de Guëll (Spain), Dr. Giorgio de Stefani (Italy), MM. Akbel and Felek (Turkey), Mr. Gabriel Gemayel (Lebanon).

They adopted the proposal that, in future, the Committee shall consist of the members of the I. O. C. for the Mediterranean Countries as well as one representative of the National Olympic Committees for the said countries.

All relevant matters connected with the International Federations will fall within the competence of the Games' Organizing Committees.



*1ers JEUX MÉDITERRANÉENS.
Le drapeau des Jeux est hissé au mât.*





